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John Allen Chalk: Personal Correspondence

John Allen Chalk

8-1-1966

From/To: Charles Moore (Chalk's reply filed first)

Charles Moore

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August 1, 1966

Mr. Charles Moore
Church of Christ
91 Salem Church Road
Newark, Delaware 19711

Dear Charles:

Thank you for your letter of July 6. We were in the process of moving on that date and for the next several days, and I was unable to answer your letter when first received.

I have also heard some very disturbing things regarding ideas being taught in the Northeast. I certainly hope this does not hinder in any way the work of so many of you dedicated men in the Northeast area. I know that if you do your work, preach the Gospel of Christ without compromise, or alteration, that you will be supported by the brethren.

The Holy Spirit problem is a very deep and complex one. I am convinced on the one hand we have not emphasized the indwelling of the Spirit as we should; yet, on the other hand, I see the excesses to which many are going with the speaking in "tongues" and other such excesses. Our responsibility, it seems to me, is to teach God's word on the Holy Spirit--not brotherhood dogma, or even our own personal opinions. This will necessitate a continuing study of the Biblical texts relating to this great subject. I know that you will preach Biblical truth about this; and I do want to urge you, along with myself, to continue to study this overpowering subject.

We hope you can use the TV film as soon as possible. We know that this must be a great task, especially in addition to your duties with the church. Whatever you can do will be appreciated by us. Let us know any way we can help you.

Return the film whenever you feel its legitimate use has been realized. We do, of course, need it; but we sent it to you for your use. You might be interested in trying to get our new color series on one of the Philadelphia stations. This would be a major breakthrough. I am not sure what film was sent you, but you might write Wally Bullington about the possibility of getting a color print if you are able to arrange auditions with any of the Philadelphia stations.

We will look forward to seeing you in Abilene in August. Accept our prayers and best wishes for your work in Newark.

Fraternally yours,

John Allen Chalk

JAC:lct

Church of Christ

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91 SALEM CHURCH ROAD
NEWARK, DELAWARE 19711

July 6, 1966

Mr. John Allen Chalk
Church of Christ
5th and Highland
Box 2439
Abilene, Texas 79604

Dear John Allen:

I trust by now you have completed your move and are comfortably settled in Abilene. I know a move is always difficult but I believe you are doing a very vital work. I continue to be concerned about some of the trends in teaching among the brethren in this area though I know it is not confined to this area. Actually the position being taken on the Holy Spirit by some of the brethren seems to be a return to the old Calvinistic ideas. However, in the Northeast it seems that those who are advocating a direct operation of the Holy Spirit and those who have tended for some time toward a much more liberal position are merging. As this takes place we have an attitude among these brethren developing that is very close to the religious existential point of view of the neo-orthodox position. I am very much afraid that among some of our brethren there is going to be a move in this direction. The combination of the emotional and the intellectual aspects of this position seem to appeal to many people. I think now I can look back and see several reasons for this trend but that doesn't help a great deal at the present time. As you said, we need to do a lot of study and careful preparation in this area.

I have received the Herald of Truth film and other promotional material. Just as soon as possible I will contact the t.v. stations in Philadelphia and try to arrange some appointments. However, as a result of our schedule of work here and my meetings scheduled this summer and fall, this may take awhile. If there is a need to return the film right away, please let me know.

I plan to be in Abilene in August and then later in the year. I hope to be able to visit with you at that time.

Yours in Christ,

Charles Moore

Charles Moore

CM/ja